REMARKS

This application is a Rule 53(b) continuation of Application Serial No. 09/729,033. Applicant No. 09/729,033 is issuing on November 25, 2003 as U.S. Patent No. 6,652,614. Claims 21 - 39 are pending. Applicants assert priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 at least to the original filing date of December 4, 2000 for each of the pending claims.

Applicants request examination and a Notice of Allowance.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

P.O. Box 2903

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903

(612) 332-5300

Date: 11-24-03

Julie R. Daulton

Reg. No. 36,414

JRD:st

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE